

## N. Y. CITY IN DREAD PLIGHT, SAYS HYLAN IN ALBANY SPEECH

Declares "No Foul Blow"  
Could Be Struck Than State  
Seizure of City Property.

ALBANY, March 1.—Mayor Hylan made a speech here today before the mid-winter conference of city officials which if published complete would fill five newspaper columns, and to hear him tell the City of New York is in a desperate plight, with the people flat on their backs and the predatory interests and corrupt politicians and the reptile press at their throats.

"No foul blow," said the Mayor, right at the outset, "could be delivered at the confidence of the people, or one which tends more to make a mockery of our popular government and to undermine our institutions, than the wilful and deliberate seizure by the State Government of the property of the people of the City of New York."

The Mayor intimated that both the Democratic and Republican Parties are controlled by corrupt predatory interests which are bi-partisan in principle. His hearers inferred from his remarks that if a third party is formed along lines which have been held down by William Randolph Hearst, Mayor Hylan will be in it.

The creation of the Transit Commission, the Public Service Commission and the Port Authority, seen three successive brutal assaults upon the municipal autonomy of New York City by the Albany autocracy, the Mayor said. He characterized the Port Authority—of which ex-Gov. Smith is a member—as "a body which does or will wear the livery of the railroad and privilege loving interests."

"As a result of legislative invasion," the Mayor went on, "the city of New York has been practically reduced to the condition of a conquered province. The power of self-government supposedly vested in the city by the State is nothing but a rank sham."

Mayor Hylan described at length how the predatory interests use both political parties while the rank and file think they are voting in their own interests.

"When the people," said he, "in righteous indignation do drive out of office one corrupt ring the corrupt bosses have a good laugh, for they know it is dollars to doughnuts that

another group of political freebooters who live on corrupt politics will be placed in the saddle."

And always, he declared, the predatory interests can depend on the support of the subsidized press. "The sinister forces of greed and corruption," he declared, "own or control practically all the newspapers throughout the country.

"This is not a pleasant recital, but the actual facts are even more repulsive and nauseating. We all revolt at them. We hesitate to think of the dangers that may issue from this gangrene which has been poisoning our political life."

"It would be a great day for the people of this State if we could but clean out the whole kit and caboodle of grasping interests, mercenary politicians and lickspittle newspapers. These are the three heads of the Hydra which must be lopped off together."

The Mayor assured his hearers that municipal bus lines can be established in New York City for \$25,000,000 and will earn \$1,000,000 a year net—16 per cent.

"The bus franchises of the city," he said, "are about the only valuable privileges still remaining with the people. They are worth millions of dollars. The Traction Trust would like to slip them into their back pockets. They smack their lips at the very thought of the feat."

The Mayor concluded leaving his auditors with the mental picture of the New York City traction magnates smacking their lips over something in their hip pockets.

**SLAYER GUILTY, MERCY REFUSED**  
Angelo Carline was found guilty of murder yesterday at Newton, N. J., in the killing of Albert Koster in Cat Swamp, N. J., last summer in connection with the stealing of a truckload of silk. There was no recommendation for mercy, which means the death penalty.

**WANT LIGHT WINES AND BEER.**  
SAN FRANCISCO, March 5.—More than 94 per cent. of the members of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce favored the modification of the Volstead act to permit use of beer and light wines, in response received today to a post card referendum. About 1,000 replies were received.

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## POLICE CONTROL OF TAXI DRIVERS IS URGED AT ALBANY

Measure Advocated by Evening  
World to Check Crime Is  
Unopposed at Hearing.

(Special From a Staff Correspondent  
of The Evening World.)

ALBANY, March 1.—One of the important bills heard before the Committee on Cities yesterday is the so-called Steinberg Taxicab bill, which places the present Taxicab Bureau of New York City under the Police Commissioner. A large delegation was present in favor of the bill, there being no opposition.

This measure has been urged by The Evening World, which secured the present taxicab ordinance that provided a cheaper rate and more plentiful cabs for the public.

The bill is aimed to secure a net-

ter enforcement of the present city ordinance, which has stood the test of the courts. It is hoped that with police control the worst elements will be weeded out of the taxicab industry, cleaner and safer cabs insisted upon and a general clean-up will follow, which will make New York City rank first in taxicab service.

**HYLAN EVINCES GREAT INTEREST IN PROPOSED CONTROL.**

Mayor John F. Hylan, while here on other matters, evinced great interest in the bill and was confident a much better service would result under the police supervision.

The bill provides that all the powers and duties in relation to the licensing of hacks and drivers, heretofore exercised and performed by the Department of Licenses, shall be transferred to the Police Department.

The new bureau to be created under the Police Department is to be known as the bureau for licensing public hacks and public hack drivers. And this bureau, under the direction of the Police Commissioner, is charged with enforcing all laws and ordinances in relation to the licensing of public hacks and public hack drivers.

The present Bureau of Licenses, together with all the employees, with the same titles, grades and salaries are to be transferred to the Police Department, but are removable for cause by the Police Commissioner.

None of the persons so transferred are to become members of the uniformed force or to participate in the Police Pension Fund.

Among the speakers who favored the bill was Sophie Irene Loeb of The Evening World staff, who led the campaign that established the present ordinance and secured the State law which abolished private hack stands and created public hack stands, and who also served on Mayor Gaynor's Commission, which drafted the present city statute.

Miss Loeb urged that the honest men now running taxicabs should be protected, as against the men of bad reputation, and that the most vital need is to secure the enforcement of the present city ordinance, since the cab industry has grown to enormous proportions.

**DRENNAN LAUDED BY MANY PROPONENTS OF BILL.**

S. W. Taylor spoke for the National Highway Traffic Association, John C. James represented the Merchants' Association, Frank Boylan favored the bill in the interest of the Hotel Men's Association of New York City, the Fifth Avenue Association was represented by Mr. Bernstein, the Broadway Association by Mr. Foster, and the Forty-Second Street Association of Property Owners by Mr. Forest.

Nearly all of these organizations paid a great tribute to John Drennan, the present Chief of the Division of Licensed Vehicles, who for years has

endeavored to enforce the city ordinance, but who has been considerably handicapped without the strong support of the Police Department, and who is retained in office in the present bill.

The author of the bill, Joseph Steinberg, read a communication from Chief City Magistrate William McAdoo, who urged the passage of the bill and who also spoke in high terms of License Commissioner Drennan as "a fine, faithful, upright man, who has performed his duty under the greatest handicap."

Judge McAdoo, who on account of illness was unable to be present, stated in his communication: "The recorded evidence shows that

men often with criminal records, with bad character, antecedents and whose associations are with lawbreakers, have been and are in fact running taxicabs in this city. The records show that many of these men act in collusion with gunmen, highway robbers, stealing and sometimes murdering."

"The taxicab in the hands of a man of dangerous character and criminal tendencies is one of the most efficient aids to the commission of crime known to the police."

"As was the submarine to the enemies of the merchant ship, so is the outlaw taxicab to the desperate men who commit the hold-up and other crimes in this city."

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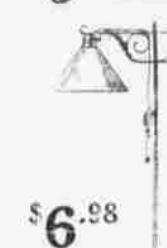
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